

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicants enclose a Replacement Sheet for Fig. 1 with the added caption "Prior Art."

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application. Applicants amend Fig. 1 and claim 9 for minor corrections. No new matter has been added.

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Applicants amend claim 9 to depend from claim 4, which provides antecedent basis for the terms objected to by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the § 112, ¶ 2 rejection.

The Examiner objected to Figs. 1 and 2 in the drawings under MPEP § 608.02(g) for failing to designate that which is old as “Prior Art.” Applicants attach a Replacement Sheet for Fig. 1 with the designation “Prior Art.” Regarding Fig. 2, Applicants refer to page 4, lines 16-25 of the specification,

“[a]s explained earlier, compared with the configuration of the distortion compensation amplifiers of the feed forward system, it seems advantageous to employ the transmission amplifiers using the digital pre-distorter system also in parallel running for the redundancy configuration because the configuration is easy in that neither the amplifiers for the distortion components nor the delay circuit and the like are necessary. On the basis of such an idea, Fig. 2 shows an assumed configuration example when the transmission amplifiers using the digital pre-distorter system are parallel run.” (Emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully submit that Fig. 2 is merely an illustration of “an assumed configuration example” for explaining the features of the claimed invention. Applicants have not admitted Fig. 2 as prior art, and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to Fig. 2.

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,288,606 to Ekman et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Examiner relied upon Fig. 2 of the application as the principal reference for rejecting the claims. As submitted above, Fig. 2 merely illustrates Applicants' assumptions for clearly describing the features of the claimed invention. Applicants, thus, have not admitted the features shown in Fig. 2 to be prior art, and Fig. 2 is, thus, not AAPA. Furthermore, Ekman et al. only describe outputs of amplifier branches 105 and 106 being selectively connected to the output line 104 by switch 103, as shown in Fig. 1 thereof. Ekman et al., therefore, do not disclose or suggest—and, indeed, teach away from—the claimed feature of a coupling unit combining the outputs of first and second transmission amplifiers. It would, therefore, not have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to combine Ekman et al. with any reference to suggest the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, together with claims 2 and 7 dependent therefrom, is patentable over AAPA and Ekman et al., separately and in combination, for at least the foregoing reasons. Claim 3 incorporates features that correspond to those claim 1, and is, therefore, together with claims 3-6 dependent therefrom, patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons.

Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Ekman et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,498,925 to Tauchi; claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Tauchi; claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of U.S.

Patent No. 6,798,844 to Rättö; and claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,038,404 to Marz.

The Examiner relied upon Tauchi, Rättö, and Marz as combining references to specifically address the additional features of claims 8-11, which also incorporate features that correspond to those of claims 1 and 3. The Examiner, again, relied upon Fig. 2 of the application as the principal reference, AAPA, in rejecting these claims. And Applicants, again, submit that Fig. 2 is not AAPA. Thus, Tauchi, Rättö, and Marz would have failed to cure the above-described deficiencies of the references cited against claims 1-7 even assuming, arguendo, that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to combine them in the manner proposed by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8-11 are patentable over the cited references for at least the above-stated reasons.

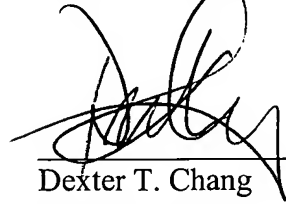
The above statements on the disclosure in the cited references represent the present opinions of the undersigned attorney. The Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically indicate those portions of the respective reference that provide the basis for a view contrary to any of the above-stated opinions.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's implicit finding that the additional reference made of record, but not applied, does not render the claims of the present application unpatentable, whether this reference is considered alone or in combination with others.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dexter T. Chang', is written over a horizontal line.

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